

Men make Houses; Women Make Homes

Correspondence and Post-Card Exchange

All persons desiring to join this exchange are requested to send their full names and addresses to Editor of *Women's Page*, Times-Dispatch. These names will not be furnished for any other than correspondence or exchange purposes, only initial or a *no de plume* being generally appended. Address answers in care of editor.

Dear Editor: Who can furnish a copy of the poem "Asleep at the Switch?"

Dear R. S.: This is the poem: "The first thing that I remember was Carlo tugging away At the sleeve of my coat, Pulling, as much as to say, 'Come, make haste!'"

And tend to the switch. Lives now depend upon you. Think of the souls in the coming train And the graves you are sending them to.

Think of them, doomed every one to lie As it were by your very hand— In your fathomless ditch: Murdered, by one who should guard them from harm.

Who is now asleep at the switch?

I sprang up amazed—scarce knew where I stood, Sleep had o'come me so: I could hear the forest trees rustling, As they by the tempest were tossed; But, what was that noise in the distance?

That I could not understand? I heard it at first indistinctly, Like the rolling of some muffled drum. Then nearer and nearer it came to me, And made my very ears hum; What right is this that surrounds me, And seems to set fire to my brain? What whistle that, yelling so shrilly? Ah! I knew now—it is the train!

We often stand facing some danger, As we seem to take place. So I stood—with this demon before me, Its heated breath fanning my face. Its headlight made day of the darkness And glared like the eyes of some witch. The train was almost upon me Before I remembered the switch. I sprang to it, seizing it wildly, The train dashing fast down the track; And on came the fiery-eyed monster, And shot by my face like a flash. I swooned to earth the next moment, And knew nothing after the crash. How long I lay there unconscious Was impossible for me to tell; My stupor was almost a heaven, My waking—almost a hell. For I then heard the shrieking and screaming

Of husbands and wives, Mothers dashed past me like maniacs Their eyes staring madly and wild. My mind was made up in a moment, The river should hide me away.

When under the still burning rafter I noticed there lay a white hand; I lifted the last log off her And quietly laid it aside, And, while searching for some spark of life,

Turned the little face up to the starlight, And recognized—Maggie, my wife!

I fancied I stood on my trial, The judges and jury I could see, And every one still burning rafter I was finally fixed upon me.

And fingers were pointed in scorn, Till I felt my face blushing blood-red, And I heard the words— "Hung by the neck until dead!"

Then I felt myself pulled once again, And my hand caught tight hold of a dress.

And I heard—"What's the matter, dear Jim? You've had a bad nightmare, I guess?" And there stood Maggie, my wife, With her arms still burning rafter I had been taking a nap in my bed, And had not been asleep at the switch!"

Dear Editor: Will you please tell me the real name of "Lucas Malet," the English author.

Answer: It is Mary St. Leger Harrison. "Lucas Malet" is the daughter of Charles Kingsley, the famous English man of letters.

Dear Editor: I see from *Woman's Page* of March 22d, that R. S. wishes to exchange clear bands for postals. I should like to exchange postals for clear bands with R. S. If you will send me her address or forward me to her, I will be glad to exchange.

L. N. M.

Dear Editor: In *The Times-Dispatch* of Sunday, March 15th, you published something about a new transfer cloth. Can you give me the address of the firm where I may obtain this cloth?

M. J. S.

Dear Editor: I should like very much to join your post-card exchange. I will exchange Richmond and Virginia views for those of Denver, Colorado, and exchange cards with S. A. B., Brooklyn, N. Y. Please forward my address to S. A. B. and send me hers.

V. G. H.

Dear Editor: I wish to join your Correspondence and Post-Card Exchange. I will exchange Richmond and Virginia scenes for those of some other State.

L. M.

Dear Editor: Will you kindly tell me how I can get rid of small pimples on my face? Also black heads? I am troubled with both.

Answer: You will have to exercise time and patience. The best thing to do is to get from your druggist a perfectly pure, unscented soap, and use it with hot water, in thoroughly washing your face every night. Take several washes, and a soft cloth, rubbing well into the roots of the hair. Afterward, take a skin food recommended by a reliable physician or druggist, and with the tips of your fingers, rub it thoroughly into every part of your face.

Do not leave the skin greasy, but continue gentle massage until the skin food is absorbed and the pores of the skin well opened. In the morning, wash your face with cold water and dry lightly with a soft towel.

Once a week, after the nightly ablution, take a towel and folding it several times, immerse it in very hot water, as hot as can possibly be borne. Apply the towel to your face, covering it and letting it remain until it begins to cool.

Repeat the treatment as many as three or four times. This will stimulate the skin and soften the impurities that are clogging the pores and producing blackheads. As soon as the towel is removed, begin the massage.

Avoid rich and indigestible foods and strong acids. Persevere in the treatment recommended and you will

soon begin to realize the improvement it will cause.

Dear Editor: Can you give me the origin of the saying that "Beauty is but skin deep?"

Answer: It is found in Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Orthodox Paradoxes," third edition, 1860, but it might be traced back further in point of time.

Dear Editor: Please tell me the author of the lines: "Often ornateness, Goes with greatness; Oftener felicity, Comes of simplicity."

Answer: The lines are Watson's and are taken from his "Art Maxims."

Dear Editor: When were the chimneys first rung in Centenary Church, Have any other Richmond churches had chimneys?

Answer: The Centenary chimneys were first rung on April 24th, 1882. I have never heard of any other Richmond church that had chimneys.

G. W. S.

Children's Blouses. Attractive blouses for children of eight years and under, heavy linen on the same pattern as the present smock, fastened on the left shoulder by five pearl buttons. They slip over the head and are easy to wash, while the simplicity of the band around the neck and down the side needs no ornament of lace or insertion. They are also very easy to make, because there is no tucking to be done, as they are merely gathered around the neck and are in slightly under the arms to make them have some semblance of fitting. On the whole, they are a great improvement on the old-fashioned sailor suits, and are far more satisfactory because they have no revers or no embroidery in the front or on the sleeve. Besides that, the regulation sailor suits were never quite appropriate for little girls, and these modifications are decidedly the most attractive things that they can wear, and are therefore not likely to go out of style in a very near future.

Welcome Suggestions. Every mother of a small girl welcomes a new suggestion for clothing. It is a pleasure when dainty garments can be made at home, and loving fingers are always ready for little frocks that show off to best advantage, but for everyday wear it is sometimes hard to find dresses that are at the same time useful and becoming.

One of the best I have seen for a girl was dressed for school in a dark blue percale or galatea two-piece suit. The outer part was made in one piece, the sleeves cut with the body and a square place cut for the head to slip through. This was worn with a white gumpie belt, and the whole was fastened with a row of buttons down the front.

Another girl had a dress of the same material and entirely concealed by the skirt of the little dress. Arrived in this she was ready for all occasions, playing "goose" in the school playground or sliding down the neighbor's cellar door, for there were no buttons to be pulled off nor ruffles to be torn.

Concerning Head Wear. Big black hats promise to be extremely popular this year.

Gold and silver, gauze ribbons can be worn on lace garden hats. Chrysanthemums, tulips, and dahlias will be popular in hat trimming.

All the new approved French models of hats are worn quite straight on the head. Porcelain blue is a popular spring shade for hats, stockings, millinery, and even for gloves.

Some of the early hats are charming in their combination of cheerfulness and warmth. A smart little three-cornered arrangement of straw, with a cloth with a knot of brown velvet at one side holds in place a bunch of snowdrops, violets, and a high spray of shaded hyacinths and jonquils.

Pretty blossoms in the many and varied shades of salmon pink or rose, lemon yellow, white, or deeper amber form lovely trimmings to tulle, lace or mousseline de sole hats for restaurant or theatre wear. The twigs are hidden beneath the splendor of floral beauty, while a tiny bunch of pale green leaflets here and there stands out from the mass of delicate color.

Three-Quarter Sleeves. As all of the coats for the coming season are fitted with three-quarter sleeves, and almost all dresses have half or even shorter sleeves, the gloves and all elbow or longer in length, but they are made in ways quite different from the product of last year, for then all long gloves were dressy, and now only a few are dressy; the rest are finished with the back with the usual "crown feet" and fasten over the wrist with a single pearl button or even a patent clasp.

A new shade is the Apricot color, which is of the very lightest brown, with a faint shading of pink, and some are of the old-fashioned red-brown, stitched with red and unadorned. They are so large and so thick that they look quite formidable for warm weather, but there is no doubt that the chambray gauntlets will return in elbow length. They are the coolest of all summer gloves and the easiest to take care of, and last year they were produced in all the usual colors—white, buff and gray.

Resemble Flower Gardens. For the woman who likes the picturesque styles in hats, there are lovely leghorns almost hidden under their bank of flowers of mammoth proportions. It looks as if a whole flower garden had been transplanted in some instances, and the riot of color would make even nature herself blush at the extravagance. Then there are the floppy Neapolitans with huge, soft ribbon rosettes of straw with upturned brims finished with elegant ostrich plumes and wonderfully shaded tips. The color artist have brought out many lovely tones and tints this season, many of which are unusual shades which always appear at their best in millinery. There are shades of blue, Dresden, porcelain, natter, and Louis XVI, the rose pink shading to the real old rose, and including that wonderful new tone of cerise, the most fashionable color of the season which has effectively banished mauve. It is a deep ruby tinted cherry, nearer warm-toned than any other shade—one of the famous French milliners calling it ruby.

Then there is the bronze shading even to the jockey greens; the many tints of soft wood brown, ecru and old gold.

Nursery Hints. Baby's white shoes may be cleaned with a mixture of good soap and benzine.

A good buy for a mother to get plenty of sleep is to train her husband

OPERA COIFFURES



With the grande toilette which evening dress imposes, the art of a coiffure may be observed at its most becoming best.

According to the character of the gowns and jewels worn, the headress is simple or elaborate, as the case may be; but whatever its character, it must be in keeping with not only the wearer, but with her surroundings.

On the other side of the water, where society in all its grades is far more accustomed to public appearance en grande tenue than it is here, the art of the hairdresser is called upon more frequently to place the crowning touch upon the evening toilette.

Much more individuality in dressing the coiffure, too, is permitted. Several acknowledged beauties cling persistently to one style of hairdressing for all appearances, choosing a style which is characteristic of and most becoming to their special type.

The stately fashion brought down to get up in the morning to give baby his first bottle. Love gets up every morning at 6. I had a hard time training him, but finally succeeded. Be patient and you will win in the end.

During the night the temperature may be changed very much, and for three months it should not, however, be permitted to fall below 65 degrees Fahrenheit. After three months the temperature may go as low as 55 degrees. After the first year it may be 50 degrees, or even 45 degrees.

Usually after the third month the nursery window may be left open at night, except when the outside temperature is below freezing.

The nursery should be aired at least twice a day—in the morning after the child's bath and again in the evening before the baby is put to bed for the night. Do not air the room while baby is present. Carry him into another room. Then do a good job. It is well to air the nursery whenever the child is out of the room. Do not take him back into the nursery until the mercury in the thermometer registers the proper temperature.

Baby's finger nails never should be trimmed at the corners. Baby's toe nails should be kept trimmed, as babies are apt to get ingrowing toe nails.

If you are planning to go out start rocking baby to sleep when he first gets up. In this way you may be able to get him to sleep in time to get to the theatre.

A four months' old baby should not be taken out of doors if the thermometer is below the freezing point, nor one under eight months if it is below twenty degrees Fahrenheit.

One of the most important precautions is to see that the wind never blows in baby's face. Another necessary precaution is to keep baby's feet properly covered and warm. Also see that the sun never is allowed to shine directly into baby's eyes when he is either asleep or awake.

A baby should laugh aloud for the first time between the third and fifth month. A good way to make him laugh is to have daddy lather his face all over with shaving soap. It never fails.

Most of the new models shown for spring costumes have the inevitable chiffon attached to their names. There are chiffon volles, chiffon panamas, chiffon pongees, chiffon serges and chiffon taffetas. Everything goes by the name of chiffon, even though there is no change in texture from the plain materials of last year. It sounds much more encouraging, however, to have a suit of chiffon panama, for while it may be plain and simple in every way and look to the uninitiated like an ordinary cloth suit, one has the inward knowledge that it is really made of a member of the large and growing chiffon family.

Tulips in Natural Color. Dahlias and tulips are very much used. Some of the smartest spring models show a row of tulips in natural color, red, or orange tones standing coquettishly erect in a wreath of their own long, light green leaves.

The novelties in millinery are beautifully colored flowers made of tiny feathers. These are arranged with collage into garlands, and wound around the high crowns of the new hats. It is an expensive trimming and

is only seen on elegant hats. Then feathers are pulled apart and used to make daisies, chrysanthemums, and dahlias, and several other attractive flowers in solid colors, with centres of beads or cennille.

It would be hard to imagine a more bewitching frame for a young and winsome face than the many flowered toques which are made of every blossom known and unknown. An artistic toque of reddish pink geraniums was prettily finished at the left side with a single feather pompon of soft woodland brown.

Words to the Wise. Everything nowadays is named. Hair dressing will continue elaborate. The jacket has altogether replaced the bolero.

Fashion insistently demands tan foot-wear. Many blouses of the coming spring will show long sleeves.

Bordered gingham offers entrancing suggestions for the summer morning gown.

White linen scarf, with a colored stripe border is one of the practical things among the linens.

Wreaths of frosted foliage and clusters of flowers are among the less expensive of the coiffure adornments.

The fashionable stripe of the moment is light and dark colors with diagonal stripes at intervals of an inch or more.

The new sailor hat has a broad, flat brim and low crown, and is practically the same thing that was worn five years ago.

The scarabaeus, ancient Egypt's royal insect, now finds favor for hatpins, rings, scarf pins and even bracelets.

The latest of many shades of blue is known as "Paon," and is a cousin gone removed from the still popular Copenhagen.

White cotton voile, trimmed lavishly with Valenciennes and cluny or Irish crochet laces, is being used again for lingerie waists.

Many toques for spring wear are composed entirely of foliage, among which are placed either rosebuds, bachelor buttons or poppies.

Serge and homespun cloth, once tabooed for visiting and smart afternoon wear, now are perfectly correct if only the make and whole appearance of the gown are sufficiently smart.

Attuned to Higher Levels. In the hour of prayer we attune our lives to the higher harmonies.

We set them to regular music. We live on higher level, in purer ether.

We move by swifter, surer energies to grander ends.

We are walled to lovelier spheres. The connection with sordid things is broken.

Our mind is purified. Our heart is purged and tranquillized.

Our spirit, which is stifled by ruder energies, is set free.

Our spirit, which is lulled to silence by the turmoil of our lower energies, speaks.

Our spirit is awakened. From deep within us we know the spiritual life is quickening.

Deep within us it stirs to activity. No, rather it comes from above us, beyond us, descends upon us like a dove from heaven, giving us wings to fly thither.

It is the sign that Christ has come to our hearts.

It is the sign that the heavenly man has been born.

The Christ is born anew every day in the hearts of those that pray.

Every morning they are wafted from earth to the celestial planes in heaven. Every morning they see the beatific vision.

Wealthy women who possess several specimens of jeweled head dresses are wont to wear them but seldom; and resort more and more to the use of short ostrich plumes, paradise plumes, aligrettes and the like, caught with a jeweled clasp, and matching the tint of the evening gown.

In European circles, where rank determines so many things, the ducal duchess, the coronet of a marchioness, are of a size and pattern prescribed by court etiquette—that is, when such are worn in connection with court functions and court appearances. The good taste supposed to be inherent in the possessors of titles is relied upon to obviate any possible mistake in the wearing of such under more ordinary social circumstances.

Put Salt When Two-Thirds Done. No salt or water with the meat. If salt is insisted upon because of tradition, it may be added when the roast is two-thirds done, as it can do little harm then.

The fat in the pan is so hot that it keeps the juices of the meat solid in, and the turning of the roast serves in place of the basting, on which so many supposedly fine cooks lay stress. There need be no smoke during the operation.

No salted or otherwise seasoned roast can equal in flavor a roast so cooked in which every bit of juice is retained.

There are some cheap gas stoves styled cookers, and usually resorted to by people who think they can't afford a real range. The regular size, when there is a broiling burner in the top of the oven of such a stove, and a baking burner in the bottom of the same oven, the use of the two burners at once after the fire is started finds favor with many.

So, but eat half the time one flame over the meat does it.

The result with flame under and over the meat is extraordinary. If one side only of a roast so cooked is carved and the roast is left with that side up, the meat is as tender as butter, and the heat being reduced after a few moments, and that meat will on the second day surpass any roast of beef of the same size as usually cooked on its first day.

Some time somebody will put out an oven just for roasting, with these ideas for foundation. That will mean a roast beef revolution.

White Linen Frocks. White embroidered linen frocks for very young girls are always beautiful and always appropriate, but the average woman regards them as out-dated. A very good plan is to buy an embroidered centre-piece, not of the heavy white linen variety, but the kind known as Japanese embroidery, covered with a design including baskets or bouquets of flowers.

Having acquired this same material must be purchased to match, as nearly as possible, the foundation of the centre-piece, and a few yards of Valenciennes insertion or French beading.

The front of the waist and skirt may be chosen, as near as possible, a complete portion of the design, and these may be set into the material with a band of insertion or beading. What is left of the centre-piece may be used to trim the sleeves, which are finished with the insertion or beading, and a very handsome, hand-embroidered gown is made at little cost and almost no trouble.

The material used on each side of the design may be finely tucked, and the model for the dress may be empire or plain, to suit the taste of the mother. It is better, though, to arrange for a back in the waistline, for the waist design will be detached in any case.

A pretty belt to wear with this frock is a boned girde of Dresden ribbon or of the softest ivory radium silk.

Lace and Insertion. This is the time of year when needlewomen are busy making lingerie waists for the summer, and any suggestion as to the arranging of lace and insertion should be very welcome.

In making bow knots or flowers of insertion for medallions it is necessary to have each the same shape and the same size. This is very easily done by placing the first one made on a piece of brown paper and cutting out the pattern of the outline. After that the others may be made by sewing the lace to the paper, and after taking it together, ripping the paper away. This will insure each medallion being identical, and will save much time for the home dressmaker.

The same idea may be carried out in making combinations of lace and embroidery, for without the greatest care nothing is so easy as to make one side of the waist totally different from the other.

Home-Made Blouses. A pretty blouse, easily made at home, might be copied after one seen on a shopping tour. It was simply bands of cheap cluny insertion, the kind formerly used on collars, sewed together the length of the blouse and made perfectly plain. The small puff sleeves were made the same way, and the collar was a band of the same. This could be varied by inserting a collar and square neckpiece of tucked net, edged with Valenciennes, or by making cuffs to match, while velvet or ribbon of the color of the suit with which it was worn could be introduced with good effect.

Revival of Roast Beef. A revival of real roast beef is in progress, and those men-who mournfully declare that the right kind of roast beef is almost unknown on United States dinner tables may take courage and also notice, for not even

the English roast beef of tradition had so fine a flavor of roast beef as is served over so rich in juices as the meat cooked in the newest way.

And one doesn't have to buy enough meat to last an average census family a week, either, in order to be sure of such beef. It is due entirely to improved practice in the application of direct heat to the meat.

The average family roast of beef throughout the country is about six pounds, more often a shade under than over. When a woman becomes skillful enough to roast meat so that the fibre looks red when a slice is removed, yet when the carving knife is pressed against the meat and scraped across the piece carved from the fibre turns the palest shade of gray, while the blood simply flows after the knife and not one teaspoonful of the juice has escaped into the pan during the cooking, it comes pretty near the perfection of a cooking process. Of course it may be cooked a much less as desired, but always the juice to the last drop may be retained.

The Oven Heat. Wipe the roast with a damp cloth. Place it in a small roasting pan, unless the family demands a grand party, a pool of brown gravy; in that case choose a larger pan.

The direct flame of a gas oven is necessary for the process, and meantime any vegetables may be boiled in the upper oven while the roast is cooking. This taking all small and steam of cooking out of the kitchen and house.

Heat the broiling oven about half the time usual for broiling. Put the roast close under the flame and quickly seal it. Turn it without sticking a finger into the meat and seal the other end of the fibre.

If too heavy a crust is formed at this time the heat cannot so easily reach the inside of the meat, while the crust continues to thicken and harden also, causing waste. When the process is continued with the top of a six-pound roast three or four inches from the tips of the flame the best results are secured.

If the heat is not sufficient and a white steam pan is used, the juice can be seen at once leaving the roast and appearing as dark brown matter in the fat of the pan. The heat should be increased if this is seen.

Turn the meat about every twelve minutes, and the regular size, when there is a broiling burner in the top of the oven of such a stove, and a baking burner in the bottom of the same oven, the use of the two burners at once after the fire is started finds favor with many.

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